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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Military Information from Rathenow 25X1A

EVALUATION See below PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT 14 to 24 March 1951

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 18 April 1951 25X1A

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]

REMARKS [REDACTED]

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- German kitchen helpers at the Infanterie Kaserne in Rathenow (N 53/Z 15) said that the ration strength was 60 officers and 400 EM during the period from 14 to 24 March 1951. With all the personnel present, the ration strength allegedly was 1,200. (1) It was said that some troops from the Infanterie Kaserne and the Pionier Kaserne moved to Altengrabow by truck during the night of 19 March for two weeks' firing practice. (2)

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- The ration strength of the troops in the Pionier Kaserne was 85 officers and 700 EM. With all troops present, the ration strength allegedly was 1,200. (1)

- The ration strength of the troops in the Kraftfahrer Kaserne was 900. The number of officers present could not be determined. The 900 troops allegedly included 250 recruits who arrived at the beginning of March. (1) A laborer said that the commanding officer of the troops there was one Kapitov. (3)

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A traffic MP on Semliner Chaussee barred persons from entering the heath. The subsequent field exercise on Semlin Heath lasted day and night until about noon of 25 March. Red, green and white flares were seen at night. The convoy returned to Rathenow at about 1 p.m. on 25 March.

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6. Between 21 and 24 March, Wald Kaserne I was guarded by sentries who wore red-bordered black epaulets. Groups of soldiers were seen receiving basic infantry training.

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7. Gate guards at Wald Kaserne II wore artillery insignia. Details carrying telephone equipment, radio sets and range finders were seen leaving the installation at about 9 a.m. daily.

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8. Wald Kaserne III was guarded by soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Forty-six artillery pieces stood in the gun sheds.

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9. All buildings of the Ziethen Kaserne were individually guarded by sentries who wore red-bordered black epaulets. There was no training activity.

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10. Sentries at the hutment on Schuetzenstrasse wore red-bordered black epaulets. Half of the hutment housed the municipal construction office of Rathenow, while the other half quartered only a Soviet guard detail.

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Field Comments.

- (1) In general, the ration strength and occupation figures agree with previous estimates by other sources.  
(2) Troops were also reported to have left Rathenow by train for Altengrabow on 17 March 1951.  
(3) Another source identified one Major Capitoff (fnu) as the commanding officer of an artillery unit in the Kraftfahrer Kaserne in July 1950.

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- (4) See [redacted]  
(5) Same source reported in late January 1951 that the hutment contained messhalls and a motion picture theater.

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